



Indiana Department of Education

Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Monthly Happenings Office of English Learning and Migrant Education June 2015

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Dual Language Immersion Pilot

In the recent legislative session, the Indiana legislature enacted SEA 267, which establishes a dual language immersion pilot program in Indiana.

The pilot program provides an appropriation of 500,000 in FY2016 and FY 2017. The Indiana Department of Education will release the application this summer to school corporations and charter schools.

A dual language immersion pilot program requires 50% of the instruction to occur in English and 50% to occur in the target language, such as Spanish, Chinese, or any other language approved by the department.

The pilot program will be offered for school corporations or charter schools to establish a program that begins in either Kindergarten or 1st grade.

School corporations and charter schools may wish to apply with a two-way immersion focus, which involves native speakers in the target language (i.e. native Spanish speakers in the Spanish dual language program), which research demonstrates has a positive impact on the students' performance in English.

To read more about the pilot and dual language immersion, read this [recent article about MSD Lawrence Township](#) (Indianapolis) and their dual language program.

Check out these great opportunities for professional development!

- **Summer 2015 WIDA Standards Overview Trainings**; Various locations. Click [HERE](#).
- **Summer 2015 Build your School Improvement Toolbox**; Various locations. Click [HERE](#).
- **October 15-17, 2015 WIDA National Conference**; Las Vegas, NV. Click [HERE](#).
- **November 14, 2015 INTESOL 2015 Conference**; Indianapolis, IN. Click [HERE](#).

WIDA Training and Resources

The IDOE is partnering with several school districts, educational service centers, and universities to offer additional WIDA Standards Overview trainings this summer/fall 2015 to new teachers, teachers who have not been trained yet, or a refresher for previously trained teachers.

Visit www.doe.in.gov/elme/wida to view the flyer, dates, and register.

Additional WIDA trainings will be held in SY 2015-2016 to cover topics more in depth.

NCELA Newsletter

The National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition's (NCELA) newsletter, NCELA Nexus, has announcements, funding opportunities, resources, and PD opportunities for the field of English learners. The most recent [newsletter](#) has a wealth of information.

New Resource

The INTESOL Journal (ITJ) recently released the [WIDA in Indiana Special Issue](#). This special issue highlights Indiana's transition to the WIDA standards, ways to support administrators, WIDA in secondary science contexts, and more.

Grant Reminders

Program administrators for Title III and NESP are reminded of the following dates:

NESP FY2015:

Request by: June 1, 2015

Encumber by: September 30, 2015

Liquidate by: December 15, 2015

Title III FY2014:

Encumber by: September 30, 2015

Liquidate by: December 15, 2015

Title III FY2015:

Encumber by: September 30, 2016

Liquidate by: December 15, 2016

In the News

MSD Wayne Township (Indianapolis) held their annual Lynhurst International Festival, which is highlighted [here](#). Chalkbeat Indiana debuted Spanish and Burmese translated versions of their [Lost in Translation](#) series at the festival. To view stories from the series in Spanish or Burmese, readers can now simply click a button at the top of the story above the main text.

The valedictorian of George Washington Community High School (Indianapolis) was recently recognized in this [video](#), who is a English learner.